

REMARKS

The Office Action and prior art relied upon have been carefully considered. Applicant notes the indicated allowability of claims 17, 21, 25, 29, and 73-77 with appreciation. These claims have been amended so that they correct the grounds of rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, and they have been presented in independent form as required by the Examiner. The remaining claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 have likewise been amended so that further rejection on this ground is not anticipated.

Claims 1-16, 18-20, 22-24, 26-28, and 30-72 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) on the alternate combinations of 1) Kawai, Hassan or Diekelman; or 2) Hirshfield in view of Hassan or Diekelman.

With the clarifying amendments to the claims it is believed that they clearly set forth patentable subject matter.

In particular, it is important to understand that the invention proposes a system where the transmission means (emitting and/or receiving means) are borne by a satellite different from the satellite which directs and focuses the RF signals. Usually, these two functions are borne on the same satellite.

It is a major contribution of the invention to have proposed to split these two functions and to have one (the illuminating mean receiving and/or transmitting-emitting) borne on one satellite whereas the other (the radio frequency antenna with phase shifting and/or delaying mean) borne on another satellite.

In view of the above, consideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number noted below.

Application No.: 10/019,401

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The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, associated with this communication, including any extension fees, to CBLH Deposit Account No. 22-0185.

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Respectfully submitted,

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